



Communities That Care

Key Leader Orientation

Benefits and
Results

Trainer's Guide
(30 minutes)

Module 4

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Mouse-Click Icon

(for a computer-based presentation)

The mouse-click icon shows you what information will come up on the slide when you click. (Some slides use several clicks.)



Slide 4-1

Notes



Slide 4-2

Review slide 4-2.



Slide 4-3

Module 4 goal

Communities That Care

Provide an overview of the benefits and results of the *Communities That Care* system.

Review the slide.

Notes

Objectives

1. Discuss the methods used to evaluate the *Communities That Care* system.
2. Describe the benefits and results of the *Communities That Care* system.



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Notes

Review the slide.



Slide 4-5

Notes

Process evaluations

Communities That Care

- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (1996, 1997)
- United States General Accounting Office (1996)
- Jenson, Hartman & Smith (1997)
- Harachi, Ayers, Hawkins, Catalano & Cushing (1996, 1998)
- Arthur, Ayers, Graham & Hawkins (in press)

Objective 1: Discuss the methods used to evaluate the **Communities That Care** system.

Hundreds of communities across the country have implemented the Communities That Care system.

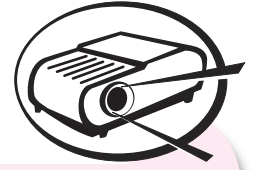
Several process evaluations have been conducted. The goal of a process evaluation is to examine whether the program was implemented with fidelity and is providing the intended services. In terms of the Communities That Care system, process evaluations look at how effective the system is in helping communities mobilize, improve planning and decision making, and select tested, effective strategies matched to their risk and protection profiles.

Review the slide.

Here are some details of major process evaluations of the Communities That Care system:

- *The Communities That Care system provided the framework for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP) Title V Community Prevention Grants Program. The OJJDP's 1996 and 1997 Title V Reports to Congress examine the Communities That Care system in Title V communities.*
- *The United States General Accounting Office (GAO) also issued a report to Congress in 1996 detailing findings from Title V communities.*
- *An evaluation conducted in Iowa examined communities using the Communities That Care system to guide their Title V Delinquency Prevention grants.*
- *The Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) funded a 1996 process evaluation, conducted in Oregon by Dr. Tracy Harachi and several colleagues.*
- *Dr. Michael Arthur and colleagues conducted another CSAP-funded process evaluation. This evaluation compared an Oregon initiative that was based on the Communities That Care model to a Washington initiative that was based on another community-mobilization model.*

These process evaluations have identified many benefits of the Communities That Care system.



Slide 4-6

Benefits of the Communities That Care system

- Shared vision and community norms
- Common language
- Coordinated data collection and analysis
- Integrated planning processes

Jensen et al., 1997; U.S. General Accounting Office, 1998; Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1998, 1999

Notes

Objective 2: Describe the benefits and results of the Communities That Care system.

Process evaluations found that the Communities That Care system fosters the kinds of fundamental, structural changes in communities that are necessary steps toward effective prevention.

Review each item as you click it onto the screen.



Building a shared vision helps those involved with the prevention effort focus on common goals. Community norms are those healthy beliefs and clear standards that support positive youth development.



Using common language for prevention and youth development can help community members overcome the kinds of misunderstandings that can sidetrack an effort.



The Communities That Care system helps communities coordinate data collection and analysis using a limited, manageable data set. Effective data collection plays a key role in developing an appropriate Community Action Plan.



Integrating planning processes can create synergy among existing initiatives and reduce overlap and duplication.



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Benefits of the Communities That Care system

Communities That Care

Increased:

- Funding
- Collaboration among agencies
- Accountability
- Use of tested, effective programs
- Long-range, strategic focus
- Community involvement

Jensen et al., 1997; U.S. General Accounting Office, 1996; Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1998, 1999

Objective 2: Describe the benefits and results of the Communities That Care system.

Process evaluations identified these additional benefits that the Communities That Care system brings to prevention-planning efforts:

Read each item as you click it onto the screen and elaborate as follows:



The GAO report shows that every dollar of federal money was matched by 90 cents from other sources—far better than the 50-cent match that Title V requires.



The OJJDP's report notes that more than half of the State Juvenile Justice Specialists listed increased interagency collaboration as a positive outcome of the Community Prevention Grants Program.



The community's profile of risk factors, protective factors and outcome behaviors can be used as a baseline against which progress can be measured.



The GAO report shows that, with the guidance of the Communities That Care model, 90% of communities implemented two or more tested, effective strategies.

5



By focusing on the risk and protective factors that impact young people's development, the Communities That Care system helps the community develop strategic, long-term plans for promoting positive youth development.

6



Jenson and colleagues report that the prevention initiative in Iowa "... involved citizens who were unfamiliar with youth problems in the process of finding solutions to crime and delinquency."

Notes



Slide 4-8

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Benefits of the Communities That Care system

Communities That Care

Decreased:

- "Turf" conflict
- Duplication or fragmentation of resources
- "Problem du jour" approach
- Use of untested or proven ineffective programs
- Community disorganization

Jensen et al., 1997; U.S. General Accounting Office, 1996; Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1998, 1999

Objective 2: Describe the benefits and results of the Communities That Care system.

The Communities That Care system can also bring benefits by reducing problems often encountered in communities.

Review each item as you click it onto the screen.



1

By taking a collaborative approach and involving all interested stakeholder groups, the Communities That Care system encourages various community sectors to view the prevention effort as everyone's concern.



2

The Communities That Care resource assessment helps communities look at the full range of resources available and identify areas of overlap or duplication. The assessment helps communities identify gaps in existing resources.

By systematically identifying the community's needs and areas of greatest risk and least protection, the community can focus its efforts on underlying predictors rather than addressing symptoms of problems.

By taking a collaborative, systematic approach, the Communities That Care system helps everyone in the community share priorities. The Communities That Care process itself has been shown to address the risk factor of community disorganization by engaging community members in an effort to positively impact their neighborhoods.



Slide 4-9

Notes

| Sample results | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Communities That Care | |
| Ames, IA | Improved cognitive skills |
| East Prairie, MO | Improved parenting skills, family relations, community relations |
| Montgomery County, MD | 72% decrease in suspensions; 30% decrease in school problems |
| Nekoosa, WI | Decrease in student detentions, academic failure, truancy |
| Lansing, MI | Decrease in fights, suspension; Increased feelings of safety at school |
| Port Angeles, WA | 65% decrease in weapons charges; 45% decrease in burglary, 29% decrease in drug offenses; 27% decrease in assault charges, 18% decrease in larceny |

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1995, 1997

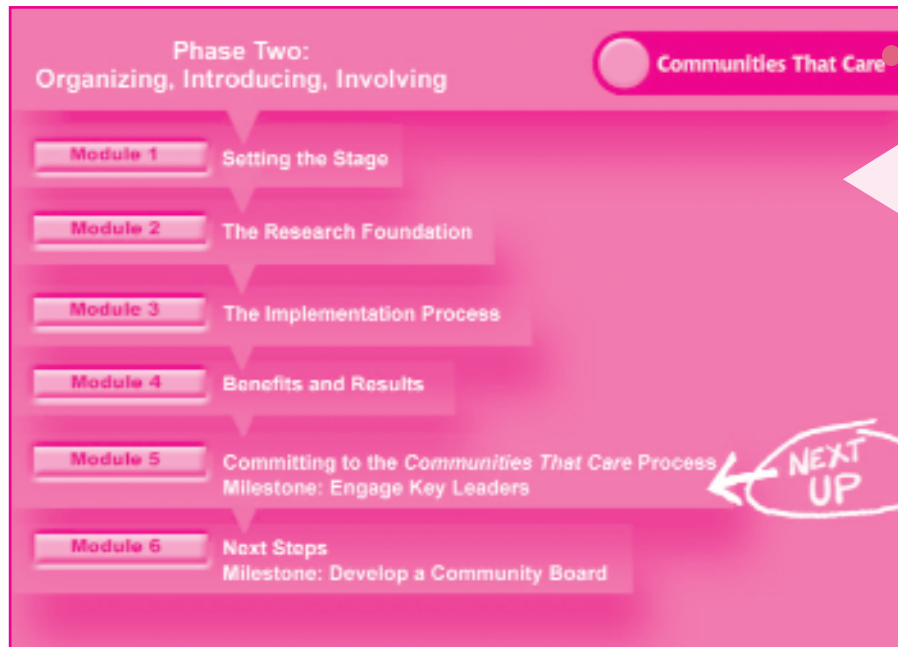
Objective 2: Describe the benefits and results of the *Communities That Care* system.

To date, no randomized and controlled trials have been conducted as outcome evaluations of the Communities That Care system. (An outcome evaluation would examine the extent to which the Communities That Care system increased protection and decreased risk and problem behaviors in a community.)

However, several communities that have implemented the Communities That Care system have reported promising results. These results offer an encouraging look at the wide range of positive changes that can occur when a community implements tested, effective programs that are matched to its risk and protection profile.

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As process evaluations have shown, the Communities That Care system is extremely effective in helping communities select those tested, effective programs.



Slide 4-10

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